

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Status of Pending Claims:

Claims 1-15 (previously cancelled).

Claim 16 (previously presented) A method for treating Bayer Process liquor containing red mud comprising

- (a) adding to the liquor a soluble synthetic flocculant and starch, wherein said soluble synthetic flocculant is selected from the group consisting of
 - (i) homopolymers of acrylic acid,
 - (ii) copolymers of acrylic acid and acrylamide,
 - (iii) copolymers of acrylic acid and acrylamide modified to contain a hydroxamic acid moiety; and
 - (iv) copolymers of acrylic acid and acrylamide modified to contain an acrylic acid moiety; and
- (b) adding to the liquor dextran; wherein the soluble synthetic flocculant and starch are added to the liquor prior to the addition of the dextran, and wherein no additional synthetic flocculant is added to the liquor; and then
- (c) removing the red mud contained in the Bayer process liquor by sedimentation, centrifugation or filtration.